



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

ROBERT L. MORGAN
Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Governor

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April 19, 2004

TO: File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, Rock-It Stone, Strawberry River Quarry,
S/013/008, Duchesne County, Utah

Date of Inspection: March 31, 2004
Time of Inspection: About 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Conditions: Clear, 70's
Participants: Paul Baker, DOGM. Five workers, including the foreman, Marty Appawoo, were present, but they did not participate in the inspection.

Purpose of Inspection:

I wanted to map the site with the GPS. The Division previously requested that the operator revise its Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations (NOI) because it appeared the operation had extended beyond the boundaries shown in the original NOI. Since this had not been submitted, I needed to confirm the boundaries of the mine site.

Observations:

During the inspection, five workers were bringing stone from near the east end of the quarry/highwall down to a processing area that extends south from the base of the highwall (Photo 1). (Please note that the clock on the camera was apparently set for daylight savings time, so the time on the photos is one hour off.) Equipment on site included a trackhoe and a front end loader.

It did not appear that the size or the nature of the disturbance had changed markedly, if at all, since the last inspection in August 2003. The operator has continued to mine the highwall to the north, but the area above the highwall had been disturbed as of the last inspection.

I walked around the disturbed area with a Geo Explorer 2 GPS unit and later transferred and corrected this data to make the attached map. To obtain satellite readings, I was not able to walk right next to the highwall, but I was able to get readings surprisingly well. The disturbed area was measured as 3.60 acres.

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On the attached map, there is a narrow piece of disturbed area that is hardly visible. It is a road that extends through the ephemeral drainage right next to the "Y" in "STRAWBERRY," through the "16," and it connects to the north part of the disturbed area.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The Notice of Intention (NOI) says there would never be more than three acres disturbed at any one time, so the operator has slightly exceeded this limit.

Of greater concern is that it appears the operator could be trespassing. The map submitted with the NOI shows all operations being conducted on land owned by Bob Pinder in the NW¼ SE¼ of Section 16, Township 4 South, Range 7 West, USM. The GPS map clearly shows the operation extending into the northeast and southwest quarters of this section, and the NOI does not indicate whether the operator has right of entry for these areas.

In a certified letter dated September 5, 2003, I asked the operator to update the NOI with right of entry information. Since then, I have called the operator three times asking for this information. I telephoned Shannon Peatross on April 16, 2004, and asked him one last time for the update. If this is not forthcoming, a notice of noncompliance should be issued.

The September 5, 2003, letter also requires the operator to take certain actions with regard to drainage control on the west side of the operation. In the April 16, 2004, phone call, Mr. Peatross explained that there is no culvert under the county road at the point where the road comes down the drainage (see attached map). He intends to place several large rocks at the bottom of the drainage to divert potential runoff away from the road and the river. Although this would keep sediment out of the river in all but the most extreme storms, there is the potential of sediment piling up along the edge of the road. The operator should be prepared to clean up this material if necessary.

PBB:jb
cc: Shannon Peatross, Rock-It Stone
Attachment: map
O:\M013-Duchesne\S0130008-strawberry\inspections\ins-03312004.doc

ATTACHMENT

Photographs

S/013/008, Strawberry River Quarry, Rock-It Stone Works
Inspection Dated: March 31, 2004; Report Dated: April 19, 2004



Photo 1. A portion of the stone processing area and the rubble pile at the base of the highwall. Note the trackhoe arm just to the right of center.

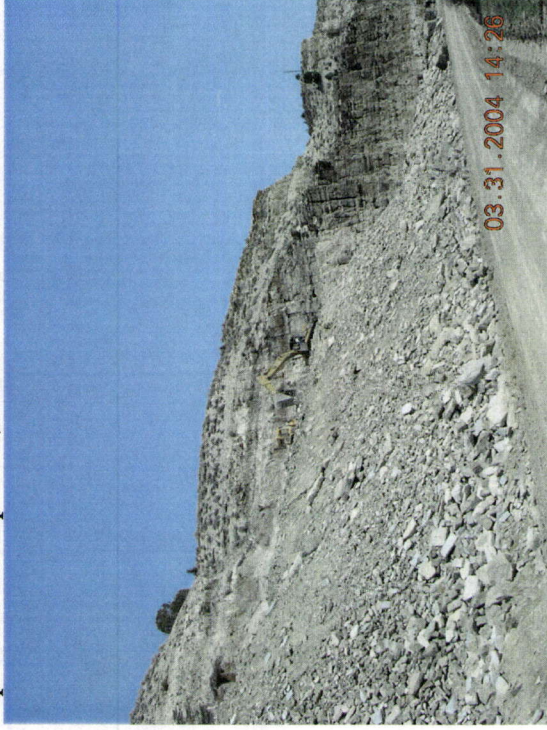


Photo 3. View from the opposite angle as Photo 1.

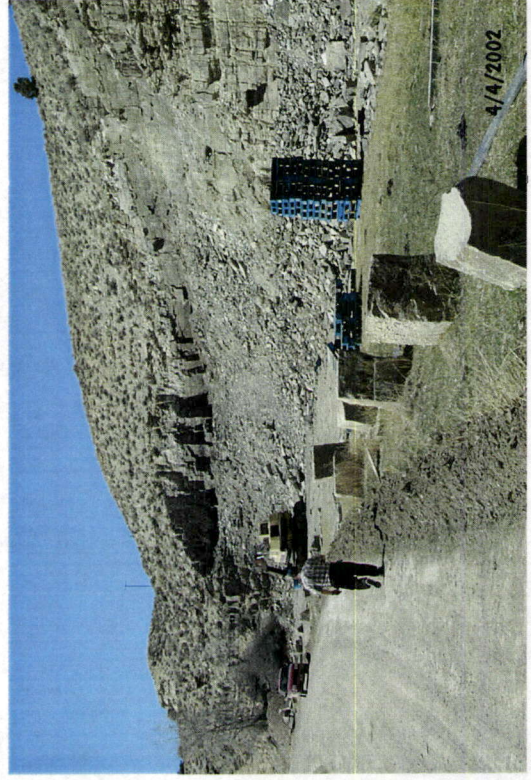
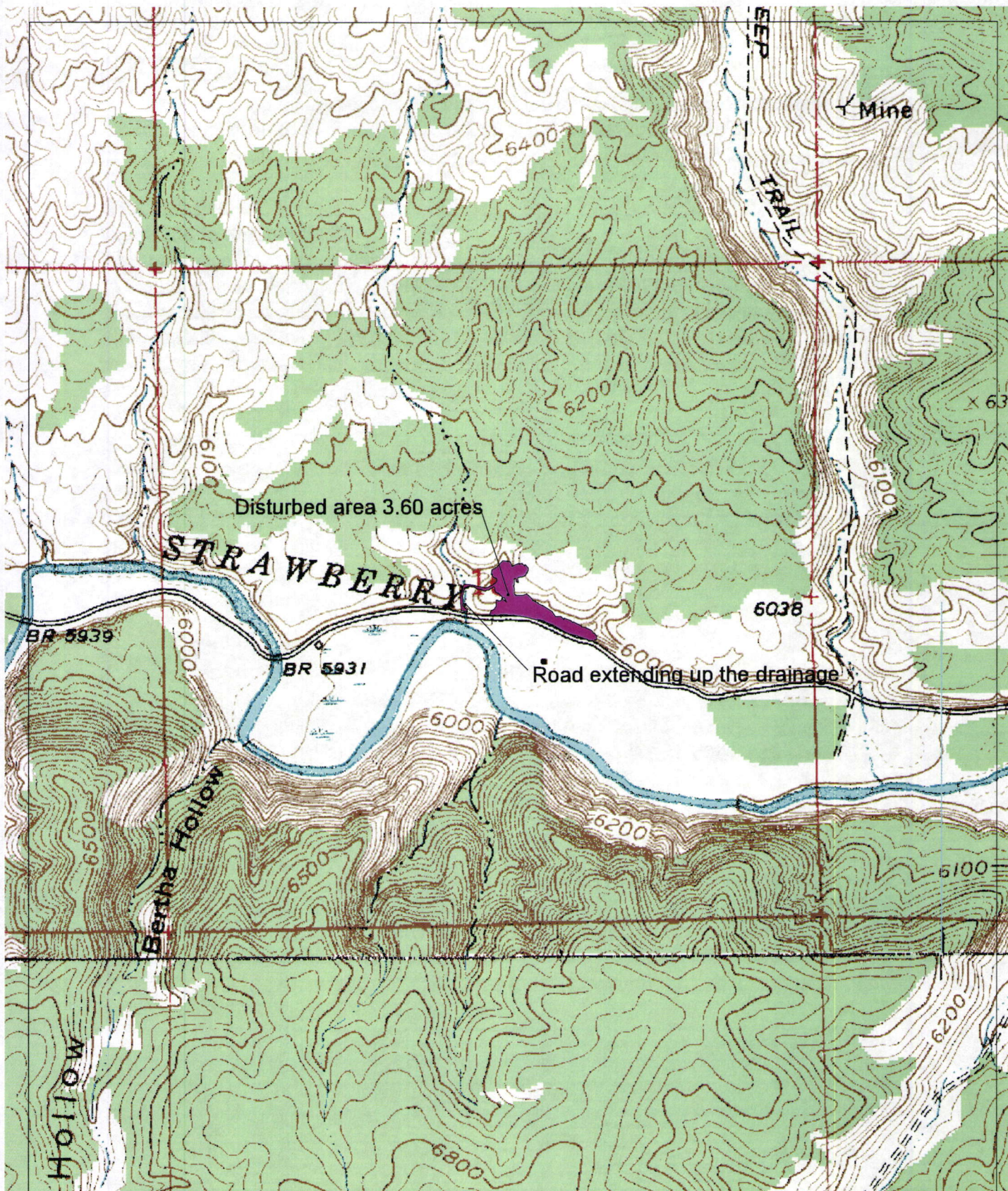


Photo 2. Photo from April 2002. Compare to Photo 1.



Dept. of Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
Mineral Mines Program

Different data sources and input scales
may cause misalignment of data layers.
This product may not meet DCGM
standards for accuracy and content.

300 0 300 600 Feet



Contour Interval: 20 feet for Strawberry Pinnacles
Quad, 40 feet for Sam's Canyon Quad



Mine Number: S/D13/008
Mine Name: Strawberry River
Township 4 S Range 7 W Section 16 USM
Strawberry Pinnacles (north) and
Sam's Canyon (south) Quads

Drafted by Paul Baker March 31, 2004